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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/824,408	04/15/2004	Masaru Kawai	056207.53989US	6482

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EXAMINER

CAZAN, LIVIUS RADU

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3729

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/824,408

Applicant(s)

KAWAI ET AL.

Examiner

Livius R. Cazan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/4/04, 4/15/04</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

The reference JP06048897 has not been considered, because the submitted copy is not of the correct document. It is believed the correct document is JP6048897U, published on 07/05/1997. A copy of this document could not be obtained.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The specification appears to be a literal translation of a foreign document, and therefore contains numerous grammatical errors. Applicant is asked to carefully read the specification and make appropriate corrections.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, there is no positive recitation of the method steps. For example, "are constrained..." (line 6 of claim 1), "forming pressure is applied..." (lines 6 and 7 of claim

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1), "...are formed" (line 10 of claim 1) should be changed to --constraining--, --applying forming pressure--, --forming-- etc., so as to positively recite the method steps.

In claim 1, it is unclear what is meant by the phrase "facing each other" (line 2). It is believed the preamble was intended to recite "A manufacturing method of rotor cores fixed around a rotary shaft facing each other". However, the claim then proceeds to recite a single blank having multiple magnetic pole claws (lines 3 and 4), and it is therefore unclear as to how many cores are being formed.

Further, the phrases "on a circumference" (lines 4 and 5 of claim 1) and "in a radial direction" render claim 1 indefinite, since it is unclear as to what the circumference belongs, and in the radial direction of which object the pressure is applied. Likewise in claim 11 (lines 6 and 8).

Also, the claim recites a plurality of claws (line 4), and then refers to a single claw (lines 6 and 10), and it is therefore unclear whether the method is applied to a single claw, or a plurality of claws. A single magnetic pole claw is also discussed in claims 2 (line 3), 3 (line 3), 10 (line 3). In claim 11, both a plurality of claws (line 5) and a single claw (lines 7 and 10) are discussed.

The phrase "the plate portion...with each other" (claim 10, line 4) lacks proper antecedent basis.

The claims, as the specification, should be revised so as to be grammatically correct. If claim 1 was not intended to recite "A manufacturing method of rotor cores" as discussed above, then it should be changed to --A manufacturing method of a rotor core--. Likewise, in claim 11, "A manufacturing method of generator" should be changed

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to --A manufacturing method for a generator--. Claims 2-10 and 12-14 should begin with --The-- instead of "A".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kato (US20020138968 to Kato et al.).

Regarding claims 1-3 and 11, Kato discloses:

- a process of forging a rotor core (6, Figs. 3-5) to be fixed around a rotary shaft facing each other (page 6, para. [0093]),
- a process of constraining by a die (113, 114, Fig. 7) an intermediate blank (61, Fig. 7a) having multiple magnetic pole claws (41m Fig. 7a) that protrude in the same coaxial direction on a circumference and the inner perimetric surface of the magnetic pole claw
- a process of applying a forming pressure in a radial direction so as to form a tapered surface on the outer perimetric end of the magnetic pole claw and a permanent-magnet fastener on the inner perimetric end at the same time; clearly forming pressure is applied in a radial direction, since the

claws are deformed inwardly, from the shape of Fig. 7a to that of Fig. 7b; see para. [0082] on pages 5 and 6; moreover, from Fig. 7c, it is clear that the outer perimetric surface of the pole claws is tapered toward the edges of the pole claws rather than being flat

Regarding claim 4 both the preliminary blank and the inner perimetric surface of the magnetic pole claws is subjected to forming pressure (see Fig. 7).

Regarding claims 5-7 and 12-14, the tapered surface is on the outer perimetric side of the pole claws (see Fig. 7c), and the magnet fasteners are on the inner perimetric side (see Fig. 13b; see para. [0087] on page 6). All the magnetic pole claws are deformed at the same time, with each individual pole claw being constrained by the dies 113 and 114 (see Fig. 7).

Regarding claim 8, unnecessary portions (8, Fig. 11b) are trimmed off from the core, including from the permanent magnet fastener (para. [0090] on page 6).

Regarding claim 9, clearly pressing the core between dies 113 and 114 (Fig. 7) adjusts the volume of the magnet fasteners and tapered surface. Further adjustment is performed in a re-pressing operation as shown in Fig. 10.

Regarding claim 10, the constraint force is applied from the plate portion (3, Fig. 7a).

Conclusion

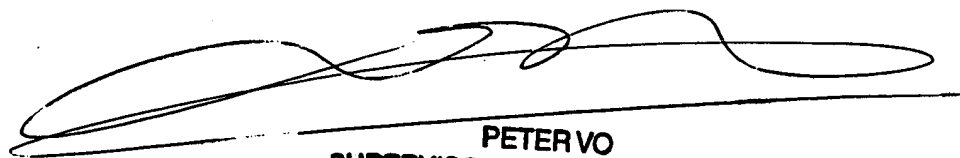
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Livius R. Cazan whose telephone number is (571) 272-8032. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM-4:00PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on (571)272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LRC 09/28/2006



PETER VO
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